

VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA
248 W. Canal St., North Utica, IL 61373

Committee of the Whole Meeting

March 23, 2023

www.utica-il.gov

AGENDA

- I. **7:00 p.m. - Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Appearance Request: Mr. Arnie Shramel, Progressive Energy Group re: Community Solar Options for the Village of North Utica
- V. Village Clerk
- VI. Director of Village Affairs
 - 1.) Update on Utica Business Association
 - 2.) Update on upcoming Village Events
- VII. Village Treasurer
- VIII. Police Department: Chief Damron
- IX. Building / Zoning Enforcement Officer
- X. Maintenance Department/ Public Works Director
 - 1.) Update - Ongoing / upcoming projects in the Village
 - 2.) Update – 2023 Project list
 - 3.) Update - Hitt St. Drainage Project
 - 4.) Update – Hydrant Repairs and Replacement 2023
 - 5.) Update – Painting / Cleaning: North Utica Water Towers
- XI. Village Engineer
 - 1.) Update – Upcoming / Ongoing Projects in the Village
 - 2.) Update – I & M Canal Re-Watering Project
 - 3.) Update – 2023 MFT Road Project
 - 4.) Update – Johnson St. Drainage Project

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XII. Village Attorney

XIII. Village President:

- 1.) Discussion – Discussion – T-Mobile Grant Application & Project Opportunities

XIV. Committee / Trustee Reports

1.) Committee Assignment Updates:

- a) 175th I & M Canal Anniversary Committee
- b) South Business District Committee
- c) Commercial Zoning District Review Committee

2.) Trustee Reports

XV. Public Comment

XVI. Executive Session

- 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal for specific employees
- 2.) Pending Litigation
- 3.) Purchase/Sale/Lease of Real Property

XVII. Possible Action regarding Executive Session items

- 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal for specific employees
- 2.) Pending Litigation
- 3.) Purchase/Sale/Lease of Real Property

XVIII. Adjournment

Posted: 03-17-2023

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MINUTES

At 7:45 pm the Meeting was called to Order by Village President David Stewart who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Village Clerk Laurie Gbur recorded the meeting attendance. Present at the meeting were Trustees Debbie Krizel, Mary Pawlak, Jim Schrader, , Nate Holland and Kylie Mattioda. Also present were Village Attorney Herb Klein, , Public Works Director Curt Spayer, Director of Village Affairs Jamie Turczyn, Village Engineer Kevin Heitz and Village Treasurer Jill Margis. John Schweickert and Police Chief Rodney Damron, were absent from the meeting.

Mr. Arnie Shramel, Progressive Energy Group re: Community Solar Options for the Village of North Utica – Mr. Shramel presented a hand-out that provided information about options for Community Solar and the possible savings of such. The Villages’ current electric supplier is Homefield Energy for the Municipal Electricity Accounts. There is an option available to municipalities to ‘stack’ Community Solar and the electric supplier to realize an additional 10% in savings.

Attorney Klein asked if there is an opportunity to negotiate a rate that is higher than 10% in savings;

Mr. Shramel stated that 10% is the highest rate of savings that he has seen so far.

Mr. Shramel stated that over time, hopefully solar will become more cost efficient.

Mayor Stewart asked if the solar can be installed on Municipal Buildings.

Mr. Shramel answered, “yes.”

Mayor Stewart asked if there would be an opportunity to install panels on the Village Hall or along the sewer lagoon.

Mr. Shramel stated that there could be opportunities to install on both or either of those; on the roof it needs to be an installation on the correct roof and in the right area on that roof to realize the savings.

Engineer Heitz asked if the residents would benefit from the Village installing solar.

Mr. Shramel stated that at this time, residential aggregation programs are used to save money for the residents.

Mayor Stewart stated that the Village would like to explore options; Mr. Shramel will provide a draft of the Agreement for the Village to review. The Board thanked Mr. Shramel for coming and sharing the information. This will be further discussed at a future meeting.

Village Clerk: NONE

Director of Village Affairs: NONE

Village Treasurer: NONE

Police Department: NONE

Building / Zoning Enforcement: NONE

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MINUTES

Maintenance Department: Public Works Director Spayer provided a brief update on the ongoing and upcoming projects in the Village.

2023 Project List – The Board was provided a copy of the 2023 Project List for the Maintenance Department. The Department has already begun working on the extensive list.

Hitt St. – Spayer stated that this will be a larger drainage project and they intend to do everything in-house.

Village Engineer: Engineer Heitz provided a brief update on the ongoing and upcoming projects in the Village.

I & M Canal Re-watering Project – The plans were submitted to the State of Illinois; They will be completing an environmental review of the project.

2023 MFT Road Project – The road project is ready to go out for bids.

Johnson St. Drainage – Engineer Heitz needs to review the project and determine quantities of Concrete and Asphalt. Cost for the Asphalt will be included in the MFT Project; Concrete will be the Village's share. The quantity for the asphalt will be added to the road project and then the MFT Project will be submitted to IDOT for their review and approval. Once approved, the Village can go out for bids. We hope to begin the Project in June.

Village Attorney: NONE

Village President:

T-Mobile Grant Project – Mayor Stewart asked the Board to think about other projects that the Village could consider and further discussion will be held at the next Committee Meeting.

Committee Updates:

175th Anniversary of the I & M Canal Committee – Trustees Krizel and Schrader: The Committee will connect with Ana Koval to talk about things happening in the area and what the Village can do to celebrate the anniversary of the Canal.

South Business District Committee – Trustees Mattioda and Pawlak: Discussion was held regarding Way Finding Signage that would be unique and more identifiable for that Business District. Also discussed was , a new Welcome to Utica Sign that would be installed with stone at the base or surrounding the sign.

Commercial Permitted and Special Use Review Committee – Trustees Holland and Schweickert: They will begin reviewing the Commercial Zoning Districts and update at the next Committee meeting.

Trustee Reports:

General Discussion – regular cleaning of picnic tables and benches and watering plants and planters; seasonal part time employees will be responsible for taking care of this as well as trash pick-up.

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MINUTES

Public Comment: NONE

Executive Session: It was motioned by Trustee Krizel, seconded by Trustee Schrader to enter into Executive Session at 8:20 pm for the purpose of:

- 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal for specific employees
- 2.) Pending Litigation
- 3.) Purchase/Sale/Lease of Real Property

All in Favor
Motion Carried

It was motioned by Trustee Krizel, seconded by Trustee Holland to reconvene the meeting at 8:38 pm.

All in Favor
Motion Carried

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.; Motioned by Trustee Krizel, seconded by Trustee Holland.

All in Favor
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Gbur
Village Clerk